Saint Thomas's Church

Easter IV

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Sung Mass at 9:30 am



The Cornerstone (detail), James Tissot, c. 1890 Brooklyn Museum, New York City

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5 416-979-2323

www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

Welcome!

On behalf of everyone who claims St. Thomas's as their spiritual home, we are happy you are with us, whether in person or via our livestream. If you are a visitor or newcomer, or even a longtime parishioner, but find it awkward or difficult to stand or kneel at the places indicated, remaining seated is perfectly acceptable. Please assume the posture most conducive to prayer throughout this service, or simply observe.

St. Thomas's has many peculiar ways that we cherish and are happy to share. If there seems to be no rhyme or reason for something, there might not be! But feel free to ask anyone after the service; it usually makes for entertaining conversation.

You are not obliged to engage any of us in conversation, though you should know that pretty much everyone here is happy to do so when we gather. You can always slip away without any judgement. We seem to have a lot of introverts here, so we understand the energy it takes to put yourself out there. Even if you're a raging extrovert, the experience of church can be disorienting. Relax and be yourself. Believe it or not, whether from near or far, God has led you here today. We want to honour what God is up to in your life, and we are here for you as you (re-) discover the joy and the challenge of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Nathan Humphrey, Rector

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion, indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.





St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit *qrco.de/smokytoms*. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.

Celebrant & Homilist: Fr. Shire

Reader: Ose Okoigun Intercessor: Michael Liu

Director of Music & Organist: Elizabeth Anderson

MUSIC OF THE MASS Communion Service, William Mathias (1934-1992)

VOLUNTARY Prelude on Rhosymedre, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you. May he fill our hearts with joy.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Choir and People sing:

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST READING Acts 7.55-60

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

But filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31.1-5, 15-16



Response: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me. R/.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me. Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, for you are my tower of strength. Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth. R/.

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me. Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me. R/.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2.2-10

A reading from the first Epistle of Saint Peter:

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation – if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the

mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, but by me. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 14.1-14

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will

do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The People sit.

SERMON

After the Sermon, the People remain seated for a period of silent reflection, standing when the Celebrant stands.

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: (Bow.) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (Rise.)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The People remain standing.

Intercessions

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers in Christ, with joyous hearts and in communion with the Holy Catholic Church, let us offer up our prayers to Almighty God.

Intercessor: Let us ask for prayers for the church universal throughout the world; for Andrew our bishop, for Kevin and Riscylla his suffragans, for_____ according to the Anglican cycle of prayer, for _____ according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer, and for _____ according to the Parish cycle of prayer, and for all who serve and minister to God's people. (Silence.)

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Intercessor: Let us ask for prayers for Charles the Third, by the Grace of God King of Canada and his other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth; and for all those set in authority under him. May God guide all leaders and people in the ways of peace, that all may honour one another and serve the common good. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: Let us ask for prayers for the world, for those places affected by war, conflict, calamity, or disaster, especially for Ukraine. May God grant us a spirit of respect and forbearance for all nations and peoples. (Silence.)

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant: Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Invitation, Confession, & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

The People bow or kneel. Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All standing, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

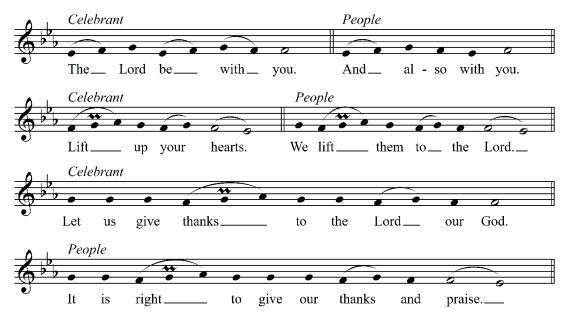
OFFERTORY HYMN 348 – Christ is made the sure Foundation

- 1 Christ is made the sure Foundation, Christ the Head and Corner-stone, Chosen of the Lord, and precious, Binding all the Church in one, Holy Sion's help for ever, And her confidence alone.
- 2 All that dedicated city,
 Dearly loved of God on high,
 In exultant jubilation
 Pours perpetual melody,
 God the One in Three adoring
 In glad hymns eternally.
- 3 To this temple, where we call thee, Come, O Lord of hosts, to-day; With thy wonted loving-kindness Hear thy servants as they pray; And thy fullest benediction Shed within its walls alway.
- 4 Here vouchsafe to all thy servants What they ask of thee to gain, What they gain from thee for ever With the blessèd to retain, And hereafter in thy glory Evermore with thee to reign.
- 5 Laud and honour to the Father, Laud and honour to the Son, Laud and honour to the Spirit, Ever Three and ever One, Consubstantial, co-eternal, While unending ages run.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

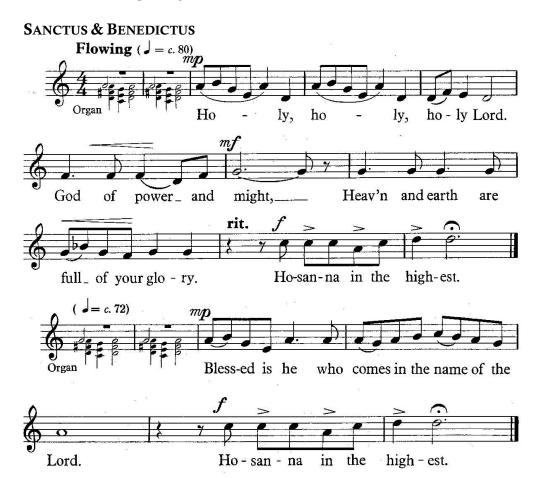
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

The Choir and People sing:



The People remain standing.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

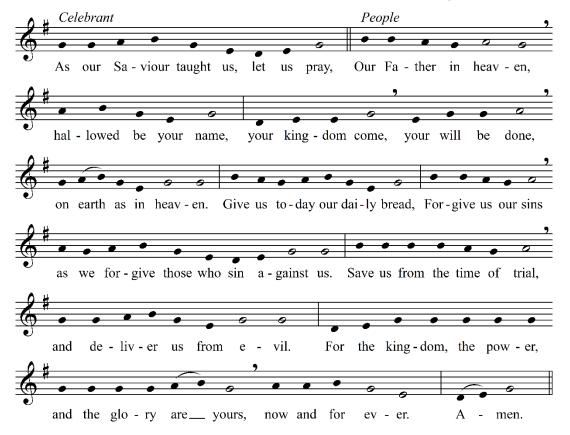
After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command:

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**



THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Lord, we died with you on the Cross **Now we are raised to new life.**

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

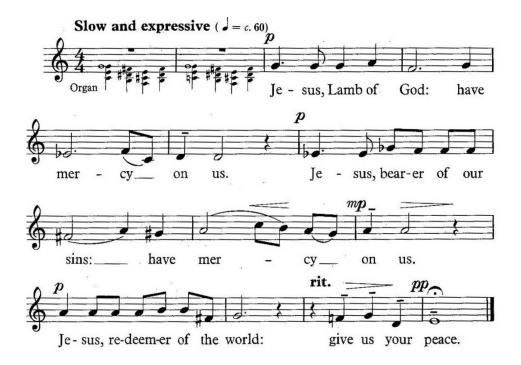
HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir and People sing:

AGNUS DEI



COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion as directed by the Sidespeople. Please receive the host (bread) on the right palm of the hand (supported underneath by the left palm). To receive the cup, gently guide with your hand the base of the chalice. Please refrain from intinction (dipping the host into the cup), as diocesan policy does not allow us to do so.

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

If you have not been baptized or are not receiving communion, please cross your arms over your chest in the shape of an X to receive a blessing. If you are not receiving from the cup, please pause to reverence it with a bow before returning to your pew.

If you wish to inquire about baptism for yourself or your child, we would love to speak with you!

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain: Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, Like wheat that springeth green. In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain, Thinking that never he would wake again, Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again... Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain, Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again... When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, Thy touch can call us back to life again, Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again...

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

An Act of Spiritual Communion, which may be prayed silently by those not receiving:

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I humbly ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

The following devotion may be prayed silently by communicants and non-communicants.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, inebriate me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesu, hear me.

Within thy wounds hide me.

Suffer me not to be separated from thee.

From the malicious enemy defend me.

In the hour of my death call me.

And bid me come to thee,

That with thy saints I may praise thee,

For ever and ever. Amen.

The People stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,

whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

EASTERTIDE BLESSING

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ, Alleluia, Alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

CONCLUDING HYMN 385 – Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore him

1 Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore him, Praise him, angels, in the height; Sun and moon, rejoice before him, Praise him, all ye stars and light: Praise the Lord! for he hath spoken, Worlds his mighty voice obeyed; Laws, which never shall be broken, For their guidance he hath made.

2 Praise the Lord! for he is glorious; Never shall his promise fail; God hath made his saints victorious, Sin and death shall not prevail. Praise the God of our salvation; Hosts on high, his power proclaim; Heaven and earth, and all creation, Laud and magnify his Name!

REX GLORIAE Henry Smart, 1868 Anon., Foundling Hospital Collection, 1801

VOLUNTARY

Intrada, Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God:

The flowers on the High Altar are placed in loving memory of Kathleen May Harcourt,
a dedicated servant leader and her son Percy Vernon Earl Harcourt,
in whom she was much pleased.

and

Those on the Lady Altar in thanksgiving for the memory of Bert Kish.

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DAILY OFFICE SCHEDULE

Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services generally last 15-25 minutes and are a great way to begin and/or end the day!

MORNING PRAYER

8:30 am, Monday-Friday 9:30 am, Saturday 7:30 am, Sunday

EVENING PRAYER

5:00 pm, Monday-Friday 5:00 pm Sunday (Choral Evensong)

Choral Evensong on Sundays is followed by Eucharistic devotions.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

Low Mass 8:00 am Sung Mass 9:30 am High Mass 11:00 am

WEEKDAY LOW MASS

12:15 pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 pm Tuesday, Thursday 10:00 am Saturday

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